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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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in Dubnica

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1. The armament plant "Skoda Plant Dubnica, National Corporation" consisted of two sections, a main plant and an ammunition plant, which covered an area of about 1,500x1,000 meters, is about 600 meters east of Dubnica (P 49/T 69) south of the Zilina (Q 50/O 92) - Trencin (P 49/T 58) highway. The ammunition plant, also designated the valley plant (Talwerk), was located on both sides of the Lubnický brook about 500 meters south of Dubnica. It was about 1,200 meters from the main plant, and extended about 3 km from north-west to south-east. [] Both plants were connected by spur tracks with the Zilina-Trencin-Bratislava main railroad line. 50X1-HUM
2. The construction of the Dubnica armament plant started in 1934 [] It was built as a branch of the Skoda Plant in Pilsen. [] The production of war material at the Dubnica Plant began in 1937 and was continued until the end of the war. The plant installations were progressively expanded until 1944. The main part of the plant was built as an underground installation. Most of the plant was blasted by the German Army at the end of the war. Clearing and reconstruction work started immediately after the war. Small-scale production was resumed in 1946. Most of the important buildings had been reconstructed by the time the Two-Year Plan had been completed late in 1948. Reconstruction and expansion work will allegedly not be completed until the end of the Five-Year Plan, i.e. in 1953. The main plant in Dubnica consisted of several workshop buildings above ground and an underground two-story structure, reaching about 30 meters below the surface and protected by a reinforced concrete roof. [] Guns and fuses were manufactured in the underground building. Dredges, cranes and structural parts for bridges as well as machine tools were built in the large workshops above ground. Each workshop building and the underground installation were connected with the railroad spur. 50X1-HUM
4. The ammunition plant extended for about 3 km along the bottom of the valley which forks at its southern end. [] The production installations, scattered

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on the slopes over the entire area, were surrounded by a barbed-wire fence. There were apprentices workshops, ammunition and explosive installations, ammunition dumps, a test firing range, and installations for assembling fuses and detonators. [] The spur track coming from the main plant ran the entire length of the ammunition plant. The individual buildings in the ammunition plant were also interconnected by a narrow-gauge plant railroad. In this part of the plant about ten buildings had been destroyed during the war and had not yet been reconstructed. 50X1-HUM

5. Power for the entire plant was supplied by the Dubnica and Ilava (P 49/T 69) hydro power stations. In the underground building there was also a thermal power station equipped with two steam turbines with an output of 10,000 kw each. However, in the fall of 1949 this power station was not yet in operation because of damages suffered at the end of the war. Raw materials and semi-finished products were supplied to the Dubnica plants by the Skoda plants in Pilsen (Plzen), Bruenn (Brno) (P 50/N 40), Koeniggratz (Hradec Krafove) (O 51/G 71), and by other rolling mills in Czechoslovakia. 50X1-HUM
6. Guns and ammunition were produced during the war in the Dubnica Plant. [] The production of cranes, dredges, structural parts for bridges and machine tools started after the war. Dredges were produced until early 1949. This production tapered off in the summer of 1949. In mid-1948, work was begun on 200 lathes which were to be delivered by the end of 1949. Orders for manufacturing dredges and structural parts for bridges were transferred from the Dubnica Plant to the Skoda Plant in Pilsen in the summer of 1949. The conversion of the Dubnica plant to the production of war material had been under way since the summer of 1949. The repair of guns of German origin had already started in 1948. The repair facilities for 105 and 150-mm guns had been expanded since early 1949. The production of guns is said to have also started in June 1949. The production of twelve 150-mm guns is reported for September 1949. Mines were produced in one department. The first series of 300,000 fuses was completed in the mechanical workshops by the end of 1949. The entire gun production of the Skoda Plant in Pilsen was allegedly scheduled to be transferred to Dubnica. [] 50X1-HUM
7. The maximum number of employees in wartime totaled 20,000 to 22,000 in 1944 for both sections of the Dubnica plant. It was 6,000 to 8,000 in October 1949. Since then it had increased continuously. There was a serious shortage of skilled workmen. Work contests were held to raise the work performance, and premiums were issued for increased efficiency. In 1949 the main plant worked three-shifts, lasting from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. However, in some departments work was done only in two shifts or even in one shift. In the ammunition plant work was done only in two shifts, lasting from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Most of the workers lived in Dubnica and in the surrounding villages. They commuted by bus or by the electric train. Some of the single workers were housed in plant-owned barracks buildings. About 30 percent of the workers were women. (9)

[] Comments.

- (2) The Dubnica Plant was built before the war when attempts were made to shift the Czechoslovakian armament industry from the border areas into the interior of the republic, especially into the Vah River Valley. 50X1-HUM
- (3) After the nationalization of the Czechoslovakian industry in 1945-1946 the Dubnica Plant remained a subsidiary of the "National Corporation Pilsen Skoda Plant." It did not become an independent national corporation until 1 January 1950.

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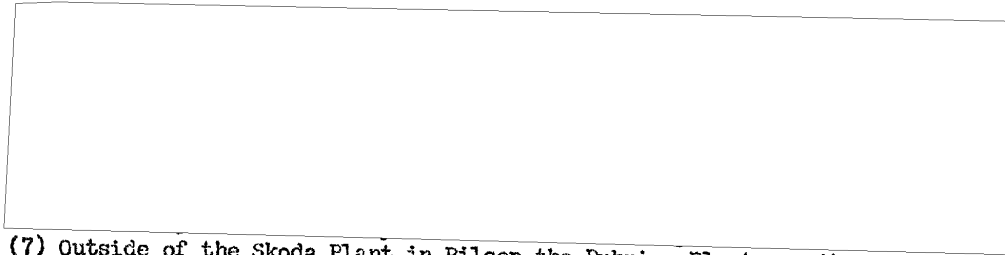
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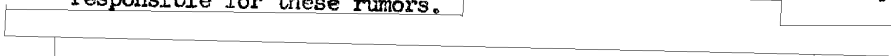
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- (7) Outside of the Skoda Plant in Pilsen the Dubnica Plant was the only Czechoslovakian plant where guns were produced. At the end of the war the monthly output was fifty-six 105 mm light field howitzers. These were produced exclusively in the Dubnica Plant.
- (8) Even in 1947 it was rumored that gun production was to be shifted from Pilsen to Dubnica. The projected shift of the armament industry may be responsible for these rumors.



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